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Characteristics of Smokers and Nonsmokers.

The goal of these investigations is to determine the extent to which differences exist between smokers, nonsmokers and exsmokers with respect to a large number of variables (socioeconomic, morphological, biochemical, physiological, psychological and social history) in a large heterogeneous population studied by automated multiphasic screening during the period 1964-1973.

Persons have been classified according to smoking habits as determined from a self-administered questionnaire. The distributions of the other characteristics, studied singly and in combination, are being compared in the different smoking habit groups.

Several studies on the relationship of smoking to a variety of characteristics have been completed and published. Current emphasis is on characteristics related to persisting in vs. cessation of cigarette smoking, taking advantage of longitudinal data on persons receiving multiple examinations. This year the investigators will also begin a study on the relation of smoking habits to mortality.

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